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**FUGITIVE ARRESTED FOR FATAL FIREBOMBING**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney John K. Vincent announced today that federal fugitive Tu Minh Truong, age 25, has been apprehended, and he made an initial appearance today in federal court. A detention hearing is set for tomorrow, December 5, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. Truong is charged with the January 7, 1997, firebombing of the residence located at 6100 Merry Lane, Carmichael.

The home which Truong is charged with firebombing was occupied by two brothers, a sister, and the sister's three children. Nine-year-old Hien Tran died as a result of the fire caused by the firebombing. Her uncle, Duc Tran, suffered third degree burns over more than 30% of his body. Hien Tran's other uncle, Tri Tran, was also injured when he attempted to rescue the little girl from her burning bedroom.

In June, 1999, Tanh Huu Lam pled guilty to arranging this firebombing of the Carmichael residence. In September, 1999, United States District Court Judge William B. Shubb sentenced Lam to a term of life imprisonment without the possibility of release.

Another individual, Trung Thanh Pham, has also been charged with firebombing the Carmichael residence. Pham's trial is currently scheduled to start on February 5, 2002.

If convicted, Truong potentially faces the death penalty, or in the alternative, life imprisonment without the possibility of release. U.S. Attorney Vincent pointed out, however, that an indictment charging a defendant with a crime is only an accusation, and that a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

This case was investigated by the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office.

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